



May 15, 2019 - May 2020
7 days a week
Service Every 10 - 15 minutes
6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

The Little Rody Pilot Project brings the first self-driving shuttles to Rhode Island. The fleet of electric vehicles offers rides along a 5.3-mile route in the Woonasquattuck River Corridor of Providence, with 12 stops between Providence Station and Olneyville Square. This initiative engages the community, stakeholders, and policy-makers in research and planning for the future of transportation.

Guiding Principles

- Safer transportation
- Sustainability, fuel reduction, reduced congestion
- Improved and equitable mobility
- Economic growth and a strong workforce
- Smart cities, data management, and privacy

May Mobility

The Little Rody shuttles are provided by May Mobility (www.maymobility.com), which entered into a public-private partnership with RIDOT, following a competitive request-for-proposals (RFP) process. After the initial year of service, RIDOT has the option to extend its agreement for service with May for up to two additional years. The company has hired over 50 fleet attendants and site managers/supervisors from Rhode Island and the region. Their local office and operations center is located on the route in Providence.

Partners

- RIPTA is exploring opportunities for first-mile/last-mile micro-transit solutions. Amalgamated Transit Union members have the opportunity to be present on rides and participate in the research.
- City of Providence is assisting with infrastructure connectivity, first-responder engagement and education, public engagement, and research for future land-use planning.
- Quonset Development Corporation participated in Phase 1 testing within the business park.

Research Topics

RIDOT, in partnership with Brown University, 3x3 Design, Stae, and Bits and Atoms will be researching the following:

- Mobility solutions
- Ridership trends
- Workforce opportunities/impacts
- Customer satisfaction/technology adoption
- Environmental impacts
- State and local policy development

Funding

- \$500,000 grant awarded by the R.I. Attorney General's Office as part of a settlement with Volkswagen
- Federal Highway Administration research funds